

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING TERRI THOMSON

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2001

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Terri Thomson of Queens, New York, for her lifetime of community service. Thomson will be honored again next week by the Powhatan and Pocahontas Regular Democratic Club for her work to improve our education and quality of life in Queens.

Thomson currently serves New York City school children, parents and faculty as the Queens Representative to the City Board of Education. Thomson is one of seven Board members responsible for setting policy for an \$11 billion budget, more than one million school children, 1100 school buildings, and more than 100,000 education professionals.

Thomson was appointed by Queens Borough President Claire Shulman to the New York City Board of Education in July 1998. She is Chair of both the Parent Outreach and Involvement and the Finance and Capital Budget Committees. She chaired a task force that has recommended all newly constructed high schools be offered as schools of choice on a year-round calendar as a strategy to alleviate overcrowding, particularly in Queens.

Terri has been a steadfast friend and consistent advocate for New York City public school children. I have attended dozens of meetings on local education issues with Terri, and she has been a powerful ally in the fight to ensure that Queens County gets its fair share of education resources.

Thomson has been a strong supporter of many community organizations and has served as a board member of the Greater Jamaica Development Corporation, Queens Symphony Orchestra, Queens Library Foundation, Flushing Council on Culture and the Arts, St. Francis College Board of Regents; as Chair of Queens County Overall Economic Development Corporation, Treasurer of the Queens Chamber of Commerce and Vice Chair of the Brooklyn Sports Foundation.

Thomson currently serves as Vice President and Director of State Civic Affairs in the Citigroup Corporate Affairs Department. Previously, she was Vice President and Director of New York City and State Government Relations for Citigroup in the Global Community Relations Department. She began her career with Citigroup in February 1990 as Director of Government Relations, representing her company in the communities of Queens, Brooklyn, Manhattan and Staten Island. Prior to her career at Citigroup, Terri was District Administrator for ten years for Congressman GARY ACKERMAN, advocating for the citizens of Queens.

A strong advocate for school governance reform, Thomson took a leadership role in changing the prohibition against Board of Education employees serving as parent representatives on School Leadership Teams. She has

been relentless in fighting for capital dollars in the Board's Capital Plan to relieve the long-standing neglect of Queen's schools that has resulted in borough-wide overcrowding.

Thomson, a graduate of Queens College, was born in Brooklyn and has lived in Flushing, Queens since the age of three. Thomson and her husband Ed have two daughters, Patricia and Maryellen.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commending Terri Thomson for all her work on behalf of her community.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO ENSURE THAT INCOME AVERAGING FOR FARMERS NOT INCREASE A FARMER'S LIABILITY FOR THE ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX

HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2001

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Farmer Tax Fairness Act, along with my Ways and Means Committee colleagues, Representatives THURMAN, DUNN, and FOLEY, ENGLISH, and CAMP. This legislation will help ensure that farmers have access to tax benefits rightfully owed them.

As those of us from agricultural areas understand, farmers' income often fluctuates from year to year based on unforeseen weather or market conditions. Income averaging allows farmers to ride out these unpredictable circumstances by spreading out their income over a period of years. A few years ago, we acted in a bipartisan manner to make income averaging a permanent provision of the tax code. Unfortunately, since that time, we have learned that, due to interaction with another tax code provision, the Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT), many of our nation's farmers have been unfairly denied the benefits of this important accounting tool.

Our legislation directly addresses the concerns being raised by farmers using income averaging. Under the Farmer Tax Fairness Act, if a farmer's AMT liability is greater than taxes due under the income averaging calculation, that farmer would disregard the AMT and pay taxes according to the averaging calculation. As such, farmers will be able to take full advantage of income averaging as intended by Congress.

This provision is a reasonable measure designed to ensure farmers are treated fairly when it comes time to file their taxes. I urge my colleagues to join me in promoting greater tax fairness for our nation's farmers.

100TH BIRTHDAY OF LANDIS, NORTH CAROLINA

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 14, 2001

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, a town in the Sixth District of North Carolina will celebrate its centennial next month, and I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate Landis, North Carolina, on its 100th birthday. Landis was founded in southern Rowan County on March 7, 1901, by a group of investors in the textile industry. The first textile operation was Linn Mill that was started on land owned by Columbus Linn. The founding fathers of the town that would later be named Landis were, in essence, the board of directors of the newly formed mill company.

How the town came to be known as Landis is subject of much discussion. According to Ted L. Allen, author of the Historical Survey (June 1974 N.C. Department of Natural and Economic Resources), Landis was named after famed jurist and baseball legend Judge Kennesaw Mountain Landis. According to Allen, "In 1901, the U.S. Government brought an anti-trust suit against a major U.S. oil company. The judge residing on the anti-trust case was Judge Kennesaw Mountain Landis. As a result of the large sum of money involved, 29 million dollars, and the name of the judge in the case, a motion was made one evening in an informal discussion that the town be named Landis. The community leaders adopted the name and the name was submitted to the post office department. The post office department did not object and on March 7, 1901, the N.C. General Assembly ratified the incorporation of the Town of Landis, North Carolina."

This story was well accepted by old timers in town. While it is a good story, there are a few holes in it. President Theodore Roosevelt didn't appoint Judge Landis until 1905. The oil company was Standard Oil Company and it appears that this case did not occur until the middle or latter part of the first decade of the 1900's. According to Frederick Corriher, his grandfather, Lotan A. Corriher, one of the original members of the Linn Mill board of directors, suggested that the town being named for Judge Landis at a town meeting in the 1920's. At that time, Judge Landis was commissioner of Major League Baseball, and thanks to the Black Sox scandal, was a national figure. Therefore, there is some friendly controversy about the naming of this town, but there are no disagreements about the future of Landis.

The future for Landis is bright. During its first 100 years, Landis has developed into a thriving bedroom community of more than 3,000 with a balance of industry and commercial growth. The town, always self-reliant, is a full-service small municipality. Landis remains true to its heritage as a textile community. Parkdale Mills, for example, operates two plants there.

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